

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2022 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **Senate Bill 170**

BY SENATOR BALDWIN

[Introduced January 12, 2022]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,  
2 designated §20-5-23, relating to the development of an incentive plan for West Virginia  
3 veterans which includes reductions and discounts in fees and charges at state parks.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

## **ARTICLE 5. PARKS AND RECREATION.**

### **§20-5-23. Development of comprehensive incentive plan for West Virginia veterans.**

1 (a) The director, in consultation with the Department of Tourism and the Department of  
2 Veterans' Assistance, shall develop a comprehensive plan for the development of, and support  
3 for, a program which encourages the use of state parks and forests by veterans of this state. The  
4 plan may include, without being limited to, reduced or discounted rates on charges and fees for  
5 campground rental fees, lodging, and visitor passes.

6 (b) For purposes of this section, "veteran" means any West Virginia resident who has  
7 served as an active member of the armed forces of the United States, the National Guard, or a  
8 reserve component as described in 38 U.S.C. 36 §101. Notwithstanding any provision in this code  
9 to the contrary, a veteran must be honorably discharged or under honorable conditions as  
10 described in 38 U.S.C. §101.

11 (c) No later than March 12, 2023, the director shall submit to the President of the Senate  
12 and the Speaker of the House of Delegates a written report detailing the program developed  
13 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

14 (d) The director shall promulgate rules, including emergency rules, if necessary, to the  
15 Legislature in accordance with §29A-3-1 et seq. of this code.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to develop a comprehensive incentive plan for West Virginia veterans, including reduced or discounted rates on charges and fees in state parks and forests.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.